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is not unique in Nebraska. We are one of the slowest states around us and one of the slowest countries in the world that are at least progressive like we are that in this kind of . . .

PRESIDENT: Mr. Speaker, that is not responsive to the question. That's for the . . .

SENATOR KEYES: Well that was a very enlightening statement any how Senator Burbach. But I am wondering if we take over and help instigate this program if the Federal government will not come along and say well the State of Nebraska is doing this now. We are going \$50 billion into debt and they are on an even keel. Do you suppose, Senator Burbach, that the Federal government may withdraw and leave it up to the state?

SENATOR BURBACH: I am certain they will not. The answer would be in the negative.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I believe it would be a mistake to kill this bill. I think that I have spoken a number of times before on it. I would hope that we recognize again . . . and Senator Marvel is totally correct when he outlines the fact that we are committing money down the road. I would want to remind you that we cannot stop progress and we cannot say that because of the fact that we have taken a decrease in revenue that we're just going to just stop the wheels of state government and that we're going to stop those programs which are necessary. The State of Nebraska, I called your attention to it several days ago, has lost \$500 million in the valuation of its corn crop from November until March of this year. It's a \$500 million loss on the corn crop alone. The price of beans has dropped enough so that we've lost about another \$100 million on the price of beans. The milo decrease in valuation has cost us about \$275 million. The livestock on hand in Nebraska today is 3 percent greater than a year ago in numbers and the valuation is one half. Now those are the kind of losses that we ought to be concerned about. We can sit here and discuss, and we will and rightly so, the need for this program. Senator Burbach isn't going to be too upset, neither is Senator Carsten, if we delay this one year. I think it's wrong if we try to save approximately \$360,000 or delay the expenditure of \$360,000 in this area on the premise that next year is going to be much better when it will not be better unless we address ourselves to those problems that are causing the decrease in revenue. There has to be leadership on this floor and in this body, and there has to be leadership from the Executive Department, and there should be leadership on a national level in order that we get the economy turned around, that we get the system working again so that we can do those things that are necessary for the State of Nebraska. I would suggest that if this bill is defeated that is going to eventually result in serious problems for the State of Nebraska. I would hope that you would not defeat it.